

REMARKS/DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1-10 are currently pending in the above-referenced patent application. Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dallas Semiconductor DS87C550 Data Sheet in view of Palowski (U.S. Patent No. 5,426,769).

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over ``Dallas Semiconductor DS87C550 Data Sheet'' in view of Palowski. Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

The above-referenced patent application was filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on May 17, 1999. ``Dallas Semiconductor DS87C550 Data Sheet'', which was cited as prior art in the June 19, 2002 non-final Office Action has a date of June 14, 1999. Accordingly, as the cited reference ``Dallas Semiconductor DS87C550 Data Sheet'' is dated after the filing of the above-referenced patent application, it does not qualify as prior art under either 35 U.S.C. § 102 or 35 U.S.C. § 103.

The ``Dallas Semiconductor DS87C550 Data Sheet'' was originally cited as prior art in the Notice of References cited (PTO-892) of June 19, 2002. Item U of this Notice of References cited erroneously states that the data sheet has a date of September 1998. (Applicants note that an information disclosure statement (IDS) is submitted herewith and includes ``Dallas Semiconductor DS87C550 Product Preview. This includes 091698 on the lower right corner of page 1. This is believed to indicate September 16, 1998.)

By the same rationale that the date of the presently filed IDS document has a date of September 16, 1998, the applied ``Dallas Semiconductor DS87C550 Data Sheet'' appears to have a

date of June 14, 1999, as shown in the bottom right hand corner of the first page by the numerals ``061499''. There appear to be no other markings on the reference indicating a date. Even if it can be assumed that ``061499'' indicates a date of June 14, 1999, the reference still does not qualify as prior art. At least for these reasons, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

Notwithstanding the above, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established in the rejections of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of *Palowski*. Unlike the recitations of claims 1-9, *Palowski* does not teach or suggest ``...a control register that is instruction-settable to respective control states that control whether or not the processing device updates the at least two addresses as a side-effect of executing [a] memory access instruction.'' (Emphasis added.)

Unlike the features of claim 10, *Palowski* does not teach or suggest ``...[a] control register being instruction-settable to respective control states that control whether or not the processing device updates the at least two addresses as a side-effect of executing [a] memory access instruction.'' The Office Action implies that these recitations are disclosed in Column 14 and Figure 8 of *Palowski*. However, *Palowski* merely discloses that ``[e]ach page of expanded data memory has a control [Special Function Register] ... that can be programmed to enable and disable [an] auto-increment or auto-decrement function of [an] Address [Special Function Register].''

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that all objections and rejections be withdrawn. Allowance of all

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pending claims is earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact William S. Francos, Esq. (Reg. No. 38,456) at (610) 375-3513 to discuss these matters.

Petition is hereby made for a one-month extension of time extending the date of response from April 20, 2004 to May 20, 2004. Permission is hereby given to charge the required fee to Deposit Account Number 50-0238. If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 50-0238 for any additional fees, including, but not limited to those fees provided under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of:
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